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BOROUGH OF OLDBURY

REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF OLDBURY

For the Year 1950



OLDBURY :
The Midland Printing Co., Ltd., Simpson Street

Borough



of Oldbury

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

and

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

For the Year 1950.

Medical Officer of Health:

EUGENE V. CONNOLLY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., L.M.,
D.C.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

EDGAR HARROLD, F.S.I.A., M.I.P.C.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL.

OLDBURY:

The Midland Printing Co., Ltd., Simpson Street.

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE,
31st DECEMBER, 1950.

ALDERMAN S. T. MELSOM, J.P., C.A., *Chairman.*

ALDERMAN B. T. ROBBINS, J.P., C.C., *Vice-Chairman.*

ALDERMAN G. W. ROSE, J.P.	COUNCILLOR
COUNCILLOR DR. H. BARRADA	MRS. R. SMALLWOOD,
„ MRS. M. E. GARRATT,	J.P.
„ A. GUNN, C.C.	„ MRS. R. STARKIE
„ W. P. ORR	„ F. W. THOMPSON.
	„ J. B. VARLEY.

OLDBURY AREA HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE,
31st DECEMBER, 1950.

County Council Representatives:

ALDERMAN J. W. BRIGHT, J.P.

ALDERMAN SIR HUGH CHANCE.

ALDERMAN S. T. MELSOM, J.P., *Chairman.*

ALDERMAN SIR A. CHAD WOODWARD, D.O., J.P.

COUNCILLOR H. PARKES, J.P.

COUNCILLOR B. H. TARR.

Oldbury Borough Council representatives:

ALDERMAN J. W. HOLLAND.

ALDERMAN B. T. ROBBINS, J.P., C.C., *Vice-Chairman.*

ALDERMAN G. W. ROSE, J.P.

COUNCILLOR A. GUNN, C.C.

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. M. J. GUNN, J.P.

COUNCILLOR W. HAYES, C.C.

Co-opted Members:

DR. W. H. SHILVOCK.

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. E. GARRATT, J.P. (representing the
Committee for Education for Oldbury).

MRS. L. RILEY (representing the Oldbury W.V.S.)

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Medical Officer of Health:

EUGENE V. CONNOLLY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.,
L.M., D.C.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

J. MACLACHLAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Resigned 31.8.50).

Assistant Medical Officer:

PEARL E. FREEMAN, M.B., Ch.B.

Dental Surgeon:

HAROLD NORDAN, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.), L.D.S. (U. Leeds).
(Part-time).

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

EDGAR HARROLD, F.S.I.A., M.I.P.C. (a.b.h.)

Ophthalmic Specialist (*part time*):

JANE PARKER SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.
(Resigned 31.3.50).
L. MARX, M.B., Ch.B.

Senior Health Visitor—School Nurse:

MISS D. H. EDWARDS, (c.d.e.)

Health Visitors and School Nurses:

MISS H. STANSFIELD (c.d.e.)	MISS A. L. GADD (c.d.e.)
„ B. M. LAMB (c.d.e.)	(Resigned 30.4.50).
„ E. M. L. FREESTONE	„ G. N. DAWSON (d.e.)
(c.d.e.)	„ H. L. GAUNT (d.e.)
(Commenced 1.5.50).	

Municipal Midwives:

NURSE C. E. HADLEY (d.e.)	NURSE M. M. BISHOP (d.e.)
„ E. ECCLES (d.e.)	„ E. M. J. DODSON (d.e.)
„ H. WINTER (d.e.)	(Resigned 20.2.50).
(Resigned 30.6.50).	„ E. M. GIBBONS (d.e.)
„ A. L. WILLIAMS (d.)	(Resigned 30.10.50).
	„ D. MAYBURY (d.e.)
	(Commenced 1.12.50)

District Nurses:

MISS E. G. WELBROCK, (d.e.f.) MISS E. ANDREWS (g)
MRS. S. J. GALLAGHER (e). MRS. L. I. BAKER (g)

Sanitary Inspectors:

Deputy Chief—W. J. MASON, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (a.b.).

Additional—F. J. ANDREWS, M.S.I.A. (a.b.)

F. W. KEENE (a.)

D. PARTRIDGE (a).

Clerical Staff:

Health:

Chief Clerk—S. ASTLEY

Senior Clerk—T. K. BOSTON

MRS. S. M. WESTWOOD

(Part-time)

MISS A. E. SMITH

„ E. A. MORGAN

„ J. SMALLWOOD

„ T. GARNER

„ O. COX

Sanitary:

Chief Clerk—

W. H. POULTNEY

J. D. FORSBROOK

(Resigned 2.12.50).

F. W. HACKETT

(H.M. Forces).

J. A. JEAVONS

NOTES.

- (a) Holds the Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Association Joint Board.
- (b) Holds the Meat and Foods Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Sanitary Institute.
- (c) Holds the Health Visitors' Certificate approved by the Ministry of Health.
- (d) Holds the Midwives' Certificate granted by the Central Midwives Board
- (e) Trained Nurse.
- (f) Holds the Midwives Teachers' Diploma.
- (g) State Enrolled Assistant Nurse.
- (h) Diploma of the Institute of Public Cleansing.

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

For the Year 1950.

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the
Borough of Oldbury.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fourth Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1950.

The vital statistics, taken all round, are very satisfactory, particularly the Infantile Mortality Rate, which at 30.30 per 1,000 births constitutes a record low figure for Oldbury.

In the realm of infectious diseases, Infantile Paralysis caused us most concern, 23 cases in all being notified. Of the 20 confirmed cases 9 have since made a complete recovery, while 9 are still attending hospital for treatment. Though the disease caused some alarm (amongst the people) it was not found necessary to disrupt the normal pattern of life in the community. Preventive measures against the disease are of little avail and there is no method of immunising as with diphtheria. Children however, during epidemics, should be discouraged from attending places which tend to become crowded, and undue fatigue guarded against as it may adversely influence the course of the disease.

Tuberculosis has not appreciably declined, but how far the apparent increase in the number of persons on the register is due to earlier diagnosis is hard to evaluate. The old stigma attached to the disease is becoming a thing of the past and patients are seeking advice much earlier. Mass Miniature Radiography for diagnosis, streptomycin for treatment and B.C.G. vaccination for prevention are helping considerably in the treatment of the disease, but shortage of sanatorium beds still denies to the community the full benefit of these aids, as during the waiting period their condition may deteriorate and the possibility of infecting others is increased. It would appear that an adequate number of beds are available but few nurses to look after them. Girls seem to object to this type of nursing largely owing to the fear of infection, but this is negligible under modern conditions and should not be a deterrent to any girl who is interested in this very valuable work. The average patient now spends a much longer time in a sanatorium owing to better medical and surgical treatment, and this is also an important factor in creating the present shortage of beds. One of the worst aspects of this shortage is that the chronic case with little prospect of cure is generally left at home in favour of a case with a good prognosis—an excellent way of further spreading the disease. We are looking forward to the visit of the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit to the Borough in October, 1951. This would be a considerable help in the detection of early cases and chronic carriers and we hope that factories and workpeople will co-operate and that everyone in the Borough will avail themselves of the opportunity presented.

Further hospital accommodation for the aged sick has not yet materialised. This is unfortunate as this problem is bound to become more acute owing to the fact that old people are increasing in our population due to a low death rate and a low birth rate, causing an adverse change in age structure. Services provided by the Local Authority for the aged include domestic help, home nursing, ambulance service and mental health care—all under the National Health Service Act, 1946, while under the National Assistance Act, 1948, the Local Authority provides homes for the aged and infirm. In spite of these provisions, hospital beds are always needed and locally are insufficient for the demand. In order that beds might be used to the best advantage it would be helpful if all patients could be seen in their homes by the hospital physician concerned in consultation with the family doctor, and the most urgent cases given priority.

Our immunisation figures have declined, but this can largely be attributed to its suspension during the Summer. The fact that we have had no case of diphtheria during the year should not instil a false sense of security as this disease might well become a serious problem again if we neglect this most valuable procedure. The vaccination figures are not very good and though they show a slight increase, only a small percentage of our people would be immune to a virulent attack of smallpox. The re-appearance of this disease in the Country during the year should be viewed with apprehension.

The demand for places at the day nursery far exceeds the number available and priority still continues for special categories. Our hopes in acquiring premises for a new nursery were frustrated by the Ministry of Health but we are glad that the matter is to be reconsidered in the near future. The need for women in industry should be met by the provision of nurseries in factories, but a nursery for priority and short term cases is most desirable as it fulfils a definite social need in any community.

We now have had sufficient time to review the workings of the National Health Service Act in the Borough since its inception and on the whole, no radical changes have occurred. The W.V.S. were responsible for the only administrative change of importance during the year in taking over the Home Help Service and have been very successful in its implementation. It is a pity that the medical practitioners of the Borough make so little use of the services provided as one would expect the largest number of requests to come from them; unfortunately the opposite prevails at present. The County Authorities, particularly the County Medical Officer, have been very co-operative in every way and have readily given their help in providing improvements where necessary. Viewing the implementation of the Act generally, too much emphasis is laid on treatment and little encouragement is given to those engaged in preventive medicine. Preventive dentistry from a Public Health point of view has already suffered a major blow and it has been truly said that we are moving steadily along the road to a sickness service for the nation.

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Members of the Council, particularly to the Chairman of the

Health Committee, for their co-operation and assistance during the year, to the medical, dental and clerical staffs of the Health Department without whose support this Report would have been impossible, to the officers of the various departments for their excellent co-operation at all times, to the W.V.S. for the Home Help Service, and to all those who have helped in any way in compiling this brief account of the health of the people of Oldbury.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

EUGENE V. CONNOLLY,

Medical Officer of Health.

Health Department,
Greenwood Avenue,
Langley, Oldbury.
September, 1951.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Name	Situation	Sessions	Accommodation
Oldbury I.W.	Wesley Street, Oldbury	Monday, 2 p.m.	Consulting, Infant Weighing and Wait- ing Rooms
Langley I.W.	"The Hollies," Langley	Wednesday and Friday, 2 p.m.	do.
Warley I.W.	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	Tuesday and Thursday, 2 p.m.	do.
Oldbury A.N.	Wesley Street, Oldbury	Friday, 2 p.m.	Consulting and Wait- ing Rooms
Langley A.N.	"The Hollies," Langley	Thursday, 2 p.m.	do.
Warley A.N.	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	Wednesday, 2 p.m.	do.
Dental Clinic, M. and C.W.	Rounds Green, Oldbury	Wednesday and Friday, 4—5-30 p.m.	Treatment, Waiting and Recovery Rooms
Dental Clinic, M. and C.W.	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	Monday and Thursday, 4—5-30 p.m.	do.
School Clinic	Rounds Green, Oldbury	M.O. and Nurse Daily, 9—9-30 a.m.	Consulting, Treatment and Waiting Rooms
School Clinic	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	M.O. and Nurse Daily, 9—9-30 a.m.	do.
School Clinic	"The Hollies," Langley	M.O. and Nurse Daily, 9—9-30 a.m.	do.
Dental Clinic, S.M.S.	Rounds Green, Oldbury	Wednesday and Friday	do.
Dental Clinic, S.M.S.	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	Monday and Thursday	do.
Scabies Clinic	Cleansing Station, Brookfields Rd., Langley	By appointment	Treatment and Wait- ing Rooms
Ophthalmic Clinic	Rounds Green, Oldbury	Wednesday, 2 p.m.	Consulting, Treatment and Waiting Rooms
Ophthalmic Clinic	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	Monday, 2 p.m.	do.
E.N.T. Clinic	"The Hollies," Langley	Monday, 2 p.m.	Consulting and Wait- ing Rooms
Sunray Clinic	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	Wednesday, 10 a.m.	Treatment and Wait- ing Rooms
Sunray Clinic	"The Hollies," Langley	Thursday, 10 a.m.	do.
Sunray Clinic	Messrs. Accles & Pollock Ltd. Solarium	Tuesday, 2 p.m.	do.
Tuberculosis Dispensary	T.B. Dispensary, Greenwood Av. Langley	Monday, 2—5-30 p.m.	do.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	3,300
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate Mid-1950)	53,820
Population (Census 1931)	35,918
Number of inhabited houses	14,457
Rateable Value (1st April, 1950)	£225,639 0 0
Sum represented by a penny rate	£867 0 0
General Rate—1949-1950	19 6
Unemployment—31st December, 1950:—	
Men and Boys wholly unemployed	14
Women and Girls	7
Temporary stoppage:—	
Men and Boys	3
Women and Girls	2

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

	M.	F.	Total	
Live Births {	Legitimate	414	373	787
	Illegitimate	22	16	38
Totals			825	
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Birth-rate per 1000 of the population			15.32	
Area Comparability-Factor				
(Births)	0.97	Standardised Birth-rate ...	14.86	
Stillbirths	17	Rate per 1,000 total births	20.19	
Deaths	520	Death-rate	9.66	
Area Comparability-Factor				
(Deaths)	1.31	Standardised death-rate ...	12.65	
Number of women dying in, or in consequence		Rate per 1000 Births		
of, childbirth was 1		(Live and Still)		
		... .. .	1.18
Death-rates of Infants under one year:—				
All Infants per 1000 live births	(25)		30.30	
Legitimate Infants per 1000 Legitimate live births	(25)		31.36	
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 Illegitimate				
		live births (nil)	00.00	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)			86	
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (all ages)			13	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			Nil	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			1	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)			Nil	

3.—BIRTH AND DEATH RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION.

	Birth Rates		Death Rate
	Live Birth	Stillbirth	
England and Wales	15.8	0.37	11.6
126 County Boroughs, and Great Towns, including London ...	17.6	0.45	12.3
148 Smaller Towns, population 25,000 to 50,000 (1931 Census)	16.7	0.38	11.6
London Administrative County...	17.8	0.36	11.8
OLDBURY	15.32	0.31	9.66

POPULATION.

The Registrar General estimates that 53,820 persons were resident in the Oldbury area at Midsummer, 1950. The "natural increase of population," that is excess of births over deaths, during the year was 315.

DEATHS.

In 1950, 344 deaths were registered in the Oldbury area. Seven of these deaths were of persons not normally resident in the district, and 183 Oldbury residents died outside the district. The aggregate number of deaths for the year was 520, representing a crude death rate of 9.66 per thousand of the estimated population. The corresponding figures for 1949 were 535 total deaths and a crude death rate of 10.02.

Of the 520 deaths, 25 were of infants under one year of age, representing an infantile mortality rate of 30.30 per thousand live births. In 1949 there were 30 deaths under one year of age and an infantile mortality rate of 34.12 per thousand live births.

The most frequent causes of deaths, the number of deaths so registered, and the corresponding death rates per thousand of the population were:—

Heart Disease	167	deaths equivalent to a death rate of	3.10
Cancer	85	„ „ „ „	1.57
Intra-Cranial			
Vascular Lesions	64	„ „ „ „	1.18
Bronchitis	39	„ „ „ „	0.72
Pneumonia	16	„ „ „ „	0.29
Tuberculosis	14	„ „ „ „	0.26

Heart Disease occupies first place as primary cause of death.

HEART DISEASE.

Of the 167 deaths recorded as due to heart diseases, 123 relate to persons over the age of 65 and only 4 were in respect of persons under 45 years of age.

CANCER.

For the purposes of comparison the following table gives a summary of the deaths from Cancer, and the age distribution of those deaths during the past eight years.

Year	ESTIMATED POPULATION	NUMBER OF DEATHS			Rate per 1000 Pop.	AGE DISTRIBUTION				
		Males	Females	Total		5-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-45 Years	45-65 Years	65 years & over
1942	49,530	30	34	64	1.29	1	...	4	21	38
1943	50,100	48	32	80	1.59	...	...	10	25	45
1944	50,220	32	33	65	1.29	1	1	7	23	33
1945	50,040	42	27	69	1.37	...	...	6	29	33
1946	51,890	47	38	85	1.63	..	1	2	32	50
1947	52,510	62	40	102	1.94	...	...	10	34	58
1948	53,380	42	41	83	1.55	...	...	11	36	36
1949	53,380	45	48	93	1.74	...	...	5	43	45
1950	53,820	49	36	85	1.57	1	...	7	33	45

An analysis of the deaths from malignant disease shows that the site of the cancer causing death was as follows:—

Site	No.	Male		Female	
		Age Range	Average Age	Age Range	Average Age
I. Carcinoma of Intestinal Tract:					
a. Buccal Cavity	1	75	75	—	—
b. Oesophagus	...	—	—	—	—
c. Stomach	9	25-70	57	3	41-77
d. Liver	3	59-77	67	1	64
e. Kidney	...	—	—	—	—
f. Pancreas	2	57-76	67	3	62-69
g. Colon	7	60-79	72	4	55-82
h. Rectum	6	52-73	64	3	64-75
i. Caecum	1	73	73	—	—

Site	Male			Female		
	No.	Age Range	Average Age	No.	Age Range	Average Age
2. Carcinoma of Female Generative Organs:						
a. Breast	... —	—	—	12	29-82	57
b. Uterus	... —	—	—	4	46-59	53
c. Ovary	... —	—	—	3	28-77	54
d. Vagina	... —	—	—	1	82	82
3. Carcinoma of Respiratory Tract:						
a. Lung	... 4	60-74	68	—	—	—
b. Bronchus	... 3	54-66	61	—	—	—
c. Trachea	... —	—	—	—	—	—
4. Carcinoma of Urinary Tract:						
a. Testis	... —	—	—	—	—	—
b. Prostate	... 4	56-82	72	—	—	—
c. Bladder	... 3	67-84	74	—	—	—
5. Carcinoma of						
a. Larynx	... 1	72	72	—	—	—
b. Throat	... 1	75	75	—	—	—
6. Carcinoma of Eye						
Miscellaneous	... 3	50-76	65	2	29-74	51
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Totals	... 49	25-84	66	36	28-82	60
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TUBERCULOSIS.

One of the 14 deaths from tuberculosis was non-pulmonary. The following table shows the sex and age groups in which the 13 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis occurred during 1950. For comparison the table includes the corresponding figures since 1939.

Year	Total	Death Rate	SEX		0-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-35 Years	35-45 Years	45-55 Years	55 Years & over
1939	28	.55	Male	17	1	1	3	4	2	6
			Female	11	...	6	2	2	1	..
1940	39	.77	Male	27	...	4	8	5	5	6
			Female	12	...	6	1	3	1	...
1941	30	.59	Male	17	...	...	6	1	3	7
			Female	13	2	4	2	3	...	2
1942	34	.67	Male	22	...	5	3	4	7	3
			Female	12	...	6	1	5	...	...
1943	42	.83	Male	25	...	3	7	6	7	2
			Female	17	2	7	4	2	1	1
1944	26	.52	Male	13	...	1	4	1	3	4
			Female	13	1	3	1	4	1	3
1945	26	.52	Male	16	...	...	4	2	3	7
			Female	10	...	3	3	2	2	...
1946	38	.73	Male	23	1	2	7	4	2	7
			Female	15	2	2	5	1	2	3
1947	27	.51	Male	20	...	4	4	5	2	5
			Female	7	...	1	3	3	...	...
1948	15	.28	Male	8	...	3	...	1	4	...
			Female	7	...	2	2	3	...	...
1949	28	.52	Male	16	1	2	1	6	3	3
			Female	12	...	5	1	2	1	3
1950	13	.24	Male	8	1	...	...	2	1	4
			Female	5	...	...	3	1	1	...

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Housing.

Increased housing accommodation is still an urgent necessity in the Borough. Re-housing of tuberculosis cases continues to have top priority and it is pleasing to record that an appreciable number of cases of overcrowding were again given favourable consideration during the year.

The Housing Manager informs me that he received 480 new applications during the year, divisible into the following groups.—

301	with no children
108	with 1 child
36	with 2 children
23	with 3 children
5	with 4 children
5	with 5 children
1	with 6 children
1	with 7 children

Total applications on Housing Register at 31-12-50 were:—

Sub-Tenants	...	...	...	...	2,286
Tenants	...	...	...	...	597

The Borough Surveyor has supplied the following figures:—

Number of permanent houses completed by the Corporation...	68
Number of houses completed by private contractors	16
Number of Municipal houses in course of erection at 31-12-50	97

Water Supply.

133 houses in the area are supplied with water from the mains to standpipes or taps in yards serving two or more houses. The approximate population so served is 479. The remaining houses and population in the area receive water from mains direct to individual houses.

Specimen results of analysis by the County Analyst are as follows:—

				Zone 1.	Zone 2.	Zone 3.
Physical Characters	...	...	...	Clear	Clear	Clear
Odour	...	...	...	None	Very slight	None
Deposit	...	...	...	Very slight white	None	None
pH.	...	...	...	7.5	7.7	6.9

Chemical Examination.

Solids in suspension (Dried at 100°C.)	...	...	...	Slight trace	None	None
Solids in solution (Dried at 100°C.)	...	...	...	26	37	20
Solids in solution. After ignition	...	...	...	25	33	16
Chlorides calculated as common salt	...	...	...	4.3	5.7	5.8
Hardness, permanent	...	...	...	9	7	6
Hardness, temporary	...	...	...	11	14	8
Hardness, total	...	...	...	20	21	14
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	0.0006	0.0004	0.0008
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.002	0.0038	0.0002
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	...	...	...	0.31	0.7	0.45
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	...	...	...	Nil	None	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C. (N/80 Permanganate)	...	...	...	0.02	0.07	None
Toxic Metals	...	...	...	None detected	None detected	None detected
Free Chlorine on receipt	...	...	...	None	0.002	0.004

Note:—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.7.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar:—

(a) In two days at 37°C....	Nil per one m.l.	8 per one m.l.	Nil per one m.l.
(b) In three days at 22°C....	1 per one m.l.	40 per one m.l.	1 per one m.l.

Coli-ærogenes (presumptive coli)						
count	...	...	...	Nil per 100 m.l.	Nil per 100 m.l.	Nil per 100 m.l.
Opinion	...	...	...	Fit for drinking	Fit for drinking	Fit for drinking

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria.

Table IV summarising the work of Immunisation will be found at the end of the Report.

The number of cases of Diphtheria notified during 1950 was Nil. These figures compare with 10 notified cases and 1 death in 1949, and compare very favourably with the figures for previous years.

In all 568 children were immunised in 1950, 499 were under five years of age and 69 were between 5 and 15 years of age. The percentage of the estimated child population immunised at 31st December, 1950, is 50.13 under 5 years, and 89.92 between 5 and 15 years.

Scarlet Fever.

137 cases were notified compared with 127 in 1949. The disease in the main was mild in character and of relatively little significance. Only complicated cases were admitted to Hospital, 16 in 1950, compared with 8 in 1949.

Pneumonia.

33 cases notified, 2 cases removed to Hospital and 16 deaths reported during the year.

Influenza.

Three deaths in 1950 compared with 8 in 1949.

Erysipelas.

Four cases were notified during the year as compared with 12 during 1949.

Measles.

The total number of cases was 232 and no deaths occurred. In spite of health education the public still fail to realise that Measles is a dangerous disease especially when the child is under five years of age. During an epidemic, parents could reduce the risk of infection by prohibiting their children going to crowded places such

as cinemas, keeping up the child's resistance by regular sleep, regular meals and warm clothing. The longer a child escapes Measles the less the danger and every effort should be made to keep other children away from the infected child.

Whooping Cough.

144 cases of Whooping Cough were notified and there was one death.

Cerebro-spinal Fever.

No cases were notified.

Infantile Diarrhoea.

No deaths were recorded from this disease during 1950.

Tuberculosis.

The table below shows the number of notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the years 1938 to 1950.

Notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis—New Cases

Year	Total	SEX		0-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-35 Years	35-45 Years	45-55 Years	55 Years & over
1938	47	Male	26	.	5	8	2	5	6
		Female	21	...	12	3	5	1	...
1939	53	Male	35	2	5	4	12	4	8
		Female	18	1	8	1	6	2	...
1940	51	Male	34	1	7	7	6	6	7
		Female	17	5	8	3	...	...	1
1941	54	Male	32	1	5	6	6	7	7
		Female	22	2	8	7	2	1	2
1942	65	Male	45	2	11	15	7	6	4
		Female	20	...	10	7	2	1	.
1943	77	Male	44	3	7	11	9	10	4
		Female	33	4	13	7	3	4	2
1944	61	Male	37	1	10	10	6	4	6
		Female	24	2	10	4	5	2	1
1945	50	Male	32	1	6	11	7	5	2
		Female	18	2	7	5	3	1	...
1946	81	Male	54	2	19	13	5	10	5
		Female	27	4	11	6	3	2	1
1947	55	Male	32	5	7	3	9	3	5
		Female	23	4	10	2	5	...	2
1948	59	Male	35	4	15	4	6	2	4
		Female	24	6	7	3	3	2	3
1949	65	Male	44	6	7	5	8	7	11
		Female	21	1	6	6	7	1	...
1950	56	Male	38	1	9	11	6	7	4
		Female	18	4	4	6	4	...	...

Nine cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis (4 males and 5 females) were notified in 1950.

BOROUGH AMBULANCE SERVICE.

During the year 7,454 ordinary cases, 582 accident cases and 269 maternity cases were transported. The total mileage covered was 52,789.

The increased number of routine cases carried is almost entirely due to the fact that fracture cases are now treated to a greater extent as out-patients, originally introduced to meet the shortage of beds.

The accident cases can be divided into:—

251	Road accidents
143	Works ,,
151	Home ,,
137	School ,,

Personnel at the Ambulance Station are on duty from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on call on rota from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. The number of cases transported between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. throughout the year was 7,662 and 643 between 6 p.m. and 8 a.m.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Chief Statistics, 1950.

Registrar General's figures.

Total number of live births during the year	825
Total number stillbirths during the year	17

Live birth rate 15.32 per thousand population.

Stillbirth rate 20.19 per thousand live and stillbirths.

Illegitimate live births represent 4.60 per cent. of the total live births in the area.

Infant mortality. 25 children died under the age of one year.

This represents an Infantile Mortality rate of 30.30 per thousand live births.

Births.

The total of 825 live births is divisible into 436 boys and 389 girls, giving a live birth rate of 15.32 per thousand estimated population.

Of the 825 live births, 38 were illegitimate (22 boys and 16 girls). No illegitimate stillbirths were registered.

The Ward distribution of the births registered in the Borough is shown in the table below. For comparison the figures for the two previous years are given.

	1948		1949		1950
Central Ward ...	67	...	65	...	63
Broadwell Ward ...	48	...	43	...	52
Brandhall Ward ...	57	...	44	...	55
Bristnall Ward ...	105	...	81	...	72
Rounds Green Ward	66	...	41	...	44
Langley Ward ...	92	...	97	...	80
Warley Ward ...	125	...	127	...	100
Totals ...	<u>560</u>	...	<u>498</u>	...	<u>466</u>

It should be noted that the figures for the Warley Ward include births in the Oakdene Nursing Home. Some of these births are to parents resident in other parts of Oldbury and also to parents residing outside the Borough.

Stillbirths.

There were 17 stillbirths registered during 1950 giving a still-birth rate of 20.19 per thousand live and stillbirths, or 0.31 stillbirths per thousand of the population, as compared with 1949, when the number of stillbirths was 17; the stillbirth rate 18.97 per thousand live and stillbirths, or 0.31 stillbirths per thousand population.

Illegitimate Births

The Illegitimate Birth Rate shows a fall on the figure for the previous year.

The full figures for the last eleven years are as follows:—

Year	Number	Rate per 1,000 Population	% of Total Births
1950	38	.70	4.51
1949	44	.824	5.26
1948	30	.562	3.26
1947	36	.685	3.43
1946	53	1.023	5.14
1945	54	1.079	5.21
1944	28	.557	2.52
1943	31	.618	2.73
1942	23	.469	2.24
1941	18	.364	2.08
1940	13	.266	1.37

Premature Births.

Notification of birth cards provide information about babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs. or less at birth.

	Born at home					Transferred to hospital	Grand Total	Born in private Nursing Homes*					Grand Total			
	Nursed entirely at home							Nursed entirely in private nursing home								
	Died in first 24 hrs. (2)	Died on 2nd to 7th day (3)	Died on 8th to 28th day (4)	Survived 28 days (5)	Total (6)			Died in first 24 hrs. (9)	Died on 2nd to 7th day (10)	Died on 8th to 28th day (11)	Survived 28 days (12)	Total (13)				
Under 3 lbs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3-4 lbs. ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4-5½ lbs. ...	1	—	—	12	12	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	2	—	—	12	12	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

NOTE: *Including Maternity Homes not in the National Health Service and Mother and Baby Homes where the women are confined in the Home.

Infantile Mortality.

There were 25 deaths of infants under one year of age and 20 of these deaths occurred within the first four weeks of life. This is equivalent to an Infant Mortality rate of 30.30 per thousand live births.

The corresponding figures for the previous nine years are:—

1941	...	58	deaths	or	70.47	per thousand	live	births.
1942	...	46	„	or	46.51	„	„	
1943	...	45	„	or	41.02	„	„	
1944	...	40	„	or	37.18	„	„	
1945	...	34	„	or	33.59	„	„	
1946	...	36	„	or	35.89	„	„	
1947	...	38	„	or	36.22	„	„	
1948	...	38	„	or	41.34	„	„	
1949	...	30	„	or	34.12	„	„	

An analysis of the causes of death of infants will be found in the following table:—

Infant Mortality during the Year 1950
Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
Prematurity ...	8	...	...	...	8	1	...	...	...	9
Hydrops Foetalis ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Spina Bifida ...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Marasmus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Torn Tentorium ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Birth Injury ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis ...	5	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	5
Icterus Gravis. Neon.	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Other Cong. Malform.	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	3
Total ..	19	...	1	...	20	3	1	1	...	25

Maternal Mortality.

There was one death during 1950, giving a Maternal Mortality rate of 1.18 per 1,000 total births.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

No cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified to the Department. Every assistance is given by Hospitals in surrounding areas in dealing with such cases.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case was notified and the vision was unimpaired. The case was treated at the Eye Hospital, Birmingham.

MEDICAL AID.

Medical Aid was required by Midwives on 79 occasions up to the end of the year and a summary of the requests received is set out below:—

Mother.

Torn perineum	...	...	..	26
Prolonged labour	...	...	...	5
Rise of temperature	...	...	...	7
Bronchitis	...	...	...	2
Abnormal presentation	...	...	...	2
Miscarriage	...	...	...	1
Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	5
Fœtal distress	...	...	...	1
Inflamed breasts	...	...	...	2
Macerated fœtus	...	...	...	1
Vaginal laceration	...	...	...	1
Phlebitis	...	...	...	1
Retained membrane	...	...	...	1
Other causes	...	...	...	3
			Total	58

Child.

Prematurity	...	...	...	1
Discharging eye	...	...	...	5
Jaundice	...	...	...	2
Asphyxia	...	...	...	3
Cough	...	...	...	2
Cyanosis	...	...	...	1
Rash on chest	...	...	...	1
General condition	...	...	...	6
			Total	21

Notifications Received from Midwives.

The following notifications were received from midwives practising in the Borough:—

Sending for medical aid	...	...	79
Attendance at stillbirths	...	...	3
Artificial feeding	...	...	30
Liability to be a source of infection	...	...	nil
Death of mother and/or child	...	...	2
Laying-out	...	...	nil

Institutional Accommodation for Maternity Cases.

The total number of births notified as having occurred in Hospitals, etc., outside the Borough was 380.

	Living.	Stillborn
Hallam Hospital, West Bromwich	... 274	9
Poplars Nursing Home, Smethwick	... 28	—
Birmingham Maternity Hospital	... 23	—
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Selly Oak	... 6	—
Birmingham General Hospital	... 5	—
St. Chad's Hospital	... 13	—
Women's Hospital	... 2	—
Dudley Road Hospital	... 4	—
Heathfield Road Nursing Home	... 1	—
Mary Stevens Maternity Home	... 1	—
Edgbaston Maternity Home, Birmingham	1	—
Hall Road Maternity Home	... 1	—
Lordswood Maternity Home	... 1	—
Malvern Nursing Home, Rowley Regis	5	—
Other private addresses	... 6	—
	—	—
Totals	... 371	9
	—	—

Midwives Act, 1936.

An indication of the work undertaken by the Midwives during the year can be obtained from the following table:—

Confinements as Midwife	...	...	387
Confinements as Maternity Nurse	...	...	51
Nursings as Midwife	...	...	6,574
Nursings as Maternity Nurse	...	...	1,550
Ante-Natal Visits	...	...	1,194
Post-Natal Visits	...	...	134

Gas and Air Analgesia.

This service was made available to all expectant mothers from May, 1948 and the response, though increasing, is still disappointing, as only 138 cases availed themselves of the opportunity up to the end of the year.

Work of the Health Visitors.

During the year 10,727 visits were made to homes in the district and 785 sessions were taken up by attendance at Ante-Natal and Infant Welfare Centres.

The work undertaken by the Health Visitors can be summarised:—

Primary visits under 12 months	...	778
Revisits under 12 months	... ..	2,843
Visits to children between 1 and 5 years		6,627
Primary visits to expectant mothers	...	145
Revisits to expectant mothers	...	59
		<hr/>
Total	...	10,452
		<hr/>

In addition to the figures given above, 20 visits were made for the purpose of child life protection cases and 255 special visits were made.

The number of ineffective visits during the year was 934.

Infant Welfare Centres.

The three centres at Langley, Oldbury and Warley continued to serve the Borough throughout the year. Two sessions per week were held at Langley and Warley, and one session per week at Oldbury.

579 babies under the age of 1 year attended the Centres for the first time. This represents 70.1% of the registered live births. 68 children between the age of 1 and 5 years attended the Centres for the first time during the year.

The following table gives particulars of attendances at the three Infant Welfare Centres.

CENTRE	Number of Sessions.		NO. OF ATTENDANCES				SEEN BY DOCTOR.	
			Under 1.		Over 1			
	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949
Oldbury ...	47	48	2377	3211	935	828	676	921
Langley ..	104	104	4710	5854	2008	2060	959	1396
Warley ..	100	100	3100	3976	2032	2306	848	1303
Totals ...	251	252	10187	13041	4975	5194	2483	3620

The statistics for the Infant Welfare Clinics compare favourably with those of the previous year.

Voluntary Committees.

A Voluntary Committee operates at each Infant Welfare Clinic and they render valuable social and clerical work to the community. Their efforts in maintaining the happy relationship at our clinics and successfully arranging social functions in the form of outings, sales of work and competitions are very much appreciated.

Medical Inspection of Pre-School Children between 3 and 5 years of age.

The following is a summary of the findings of medical inspections during 1950:—

Number of children examined—486.

Found to be of good nutrition A	378
Found to be of fair nutrition B	106
Found to be of poor nutrition C	2
Total	486

Defects found and referred for treatment:—

Skin	3	Cervical Glands	9
Eye Defect	20	Heart and Circulation... ..	—
Nose and Throat	27	Lung Defect	9
Ear Defect	4	Developmental	5
Defective Speech	—	Orthopædic	29
Other Defects and Diseases	1	Nervous System	—

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The attendances at the respective clinics were as follows:—

	OLDBURY.		LANGLEY.		WARLEY.		TOTALS	
	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949
Number of Sessions ...	52	52	52	79	52	52	156	183
New Ante-Natal Cases	132	199	175	230	88	148	395	577
Re-visits ...	667	1095	813	1270	411	519	1891	2884
Average per Session ...	15.3	25	19	19	9.6	13	1.6	19

The number of 395 new cases is 46.9 per cent. of the total registered births for the district.

Routine blood samples for the investigation of the Rhesus Factor and Wasserman examinations are now taken at the Ante-Natal Clinics, and the results so far obtained undoubtedly justify the continuance of this procedure.

Post-Natal Clinics.

Attendances are, on the whole, disappointing, but this is now largely due to the obligation of Doctors under the National Health Service Act, 1946, to carry out routine post-natal examinations on their Maternity cases.

Milk Assistance Scheme.

There is a scheme in operation whereby free milk is supplied to expectant and nursing mothers and infants up to five years of age who attend the Ante-Natal and Welfare Clinics and for whom a supply of milk is recommended by the Medical Officer. No applications were received during the year.

Dried milk and other foods were sold at the three Welfare Centres to the value of £1,625 13s. 7d.

Ophthalmic Treatment.

Those children attending the Welfare Centres noted to be suffering from defective vision or other eye conditions are sent to Miss J. Parker Smith, the Ophthalmic Specialist at the School Clinic.

During 1950, 38 new cases were examined and the following conditions were found to have been present:—

Strabismus	...	...	...	...	12
Astigmatism	...	...	...	...	18
Blepharitis	...	..	...	...	1
Ptosis	...	...	...	...	1
Epicanthus	...	...	...	...	1
Adenoma of Lachrymal Gland	...	...	...	...	1
No defects found	...	...	...	...	5

MOAT ROAD NURSERY.

	Number of Attendances		Average Attendances	
	Weekday		Weekday	
	Under 2 years	Over 2 years	Under 2 years	Over 2 years
January	138	474	6.18	21.54
February	117	423	5.85	21.15
March	406	484	5.60	21.0
April	90	360	5.00	20.00
May	105	468	5.00	22.28
June	121	473	5.50	21.50
July	106	453	5.04	21.57
August	75	312	3.57	14.85
September	91	299	4.33	14.23
October	37	423	1.68	19.22
November	...	513	...	23.31
December	...	417	...	21.94
Totals	986	5099	3.91	20.23

TABLE I.—Corrected Notifications of Infectious Diseases during 1950

Notifiable Disease	Cases Notified in Whole District											Total Cases Notified in each Ward						Total	Total cases re-moved to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of Persons belonging to the District	
	At Ages—Years											Central	Broadwell	Brandhall	Rounds Green	Langley	Warley				Bristnall
	Under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65											65 and upwards
Scarlet Fever ...	...	6	3	11	13	73	18	7	3	2	1	...	...	9	46	7	53	15	137	16	...
Measles ...	8	24	21	39	31	104	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	10	27	67	41	43	232	2	...
Whooping Cough ...	6	12	22	24	28	31	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	13	31	20	35	16	144	2	...
Pneumonia ...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	3	4	5	16	2	...	...	10	6	7	7	33	2	1
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	4	1	...
Paratyphoid ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Ac. Polio—Paralytic ...	...	2	2	6	1	4	4	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	5	5	2	3	20	15	2
“ ” —Non-Paralytic...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	3	3	...
Ac. Encephalitis—Infective ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Non-infective ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...
Food poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...
Totals ...	16	44	49	81	74	236	25	15	10	8	18	3	36	35	122	51	108	85	579	42	11

TABLE III.

Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1950.

	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS	
	Live Births	Still-births	All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Tuberculosis	Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years)	Total Deaths under One year
England and Wales	15.8	0.37	11.6	0.00	...	0.36	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.10	1.9	29.8
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London) ...	17.6	0.45	12.3	0.00	..	0.42	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.09	2.2	33.8
148 Smaller Towns (estimated Population 25,000 to 50,000, Census, 1931)	16.7	0.38	11.6	0.00	..	0.33	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.10	1.6	29.4
London Administrative County	17.8	0.36	11.8	0.00	...	0.39	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.07	1.0	26.3
Oldbury	15.32	0.31	9.66	0.00	...	0.26	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.0	30.3

MATERNAL MORTALITY

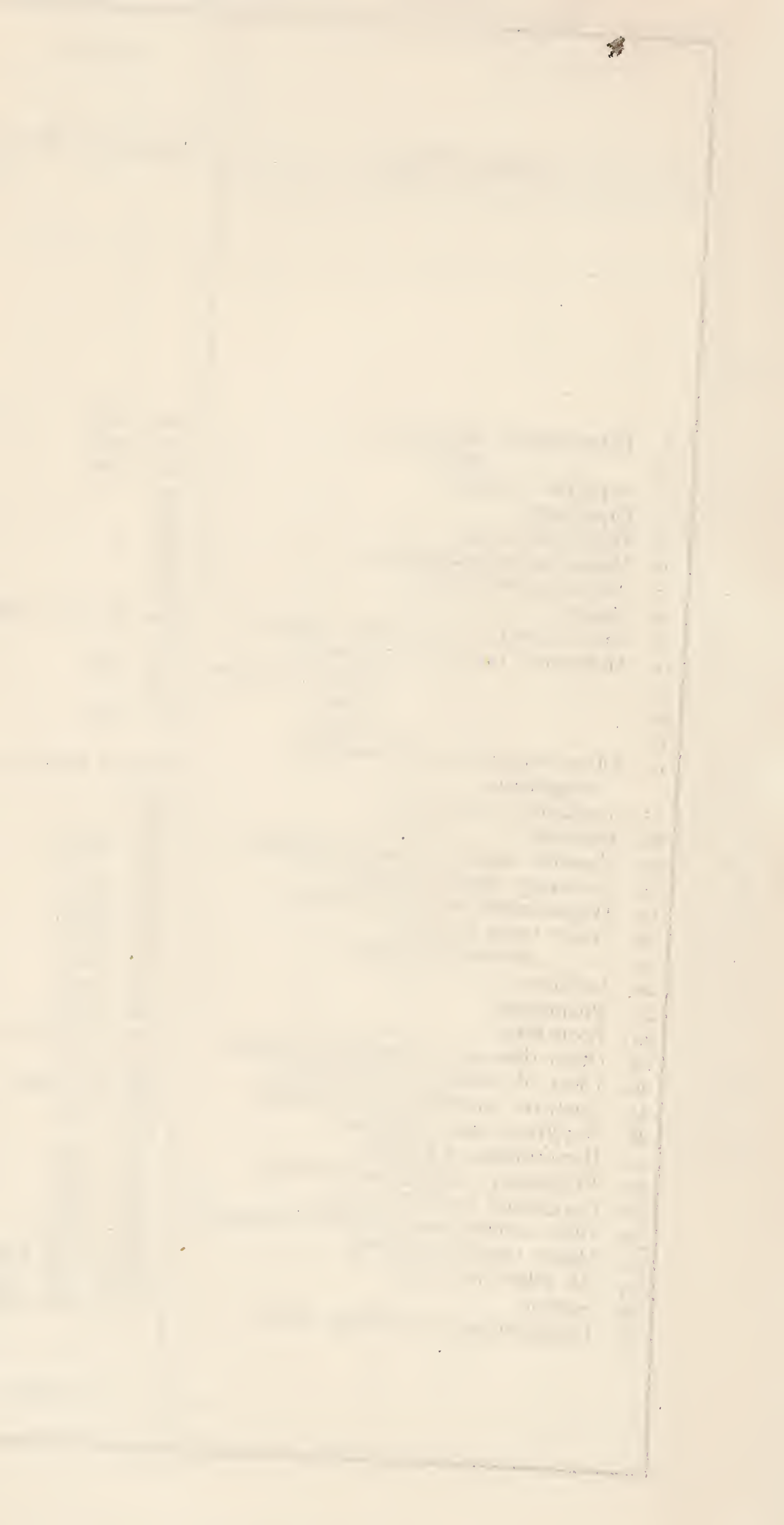
International List No.
and cause

Rates per 1,000 Total
(Live and Still) births

	England & Wales	Oldbury
651. Abortion with sepsis	0.09	0.00
650, 652. Other abortion	0.05	0.00
640-649, 670-678. Complication of pregnancy and delivery	0.54	1.18
681. Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium	0.03	0.00
680, 682-689. Other complications of the puerperium	0.15	0.00

TABLE II. CAUSES OF DEATH, 1950.

Cause of Death	Detailed List No.—	All ages			AGE GROUPS													WARDS						
		TOTAL	M	F	0—4 months	4—12 months	1—5 years	5—10 years	10—15 years	15—20 years	20—25 years	25—35 years	35—45 years	45—55 years	55—65 years	65—75 years	75 and over	Central	Broadwell	Brandhall	Rounds Green	Langley	Warley	Bristnall
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	001—008	13	8	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	3	2	3	1	—	2	2	2	1	2	3	1
2. " other ...	010—019	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease ...	020—029	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria ...	055	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping cough ...	056	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections ...	057	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis ...	080	2	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
8. Measles ...	085	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases ...	Rest of 001—138	5	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	151	12	9	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	5	2	1	1	—	2	3	4
11. " " lung, bronchus ...	162, 163	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	2
12. " " breast ...	170	12	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	2	2	2	2	—	—	—	—
13. " " uterus ...	171—174	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	Rest of 140-203, 205	50	33	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	11	20	14	6	10	8	5	6	8	7
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia ...	204	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
16. Diabetes ...	260	5	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	—	1	1	—	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	330—334	64	33	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	10	16	26	9	8	9	9	14	9	6
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	420	42	29	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	8	16	13	5	8	6	4	6	7	6
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	440—443	16	7	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	7	4	3	2	3	—	2	4	2
20. Other heart disease ...	410—443	109	49	60	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	7	16	23	60	14	12	18	14	22
21. " circulatory disease ...	444—468	10	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	5	—	3	1	—	3	2	1
22. Influenza ...	480—483	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—
23. Pneumonia ...	490—493	16	8	8	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	7	5	2	2	4	1	2	2	3
24. Bronchitis ...	500—502	39	24	15	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	11	16	6	6	4	2	4	7	7	9
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	470—475, 510—527	8	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	2	—	2	—	—	1	1	4
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum ...	540—541	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	543, 571, 572, 764	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	590—594	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	2	—	2	—	1
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	610	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	2	—	2	—	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	640—689	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
31. Congenital malformations ...	750—759	3	1	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	001—795	54	23	31	19	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	5	6	9	6	10	7	6	1	12
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	E810—835	6	4	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	1	2	—	1	—	3	—
34. All other accidents ...	E800—802, E840—963	11	6	5	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	1	3
35. Suicide ...	E963, 970—979	7	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	6
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	E964, 965, 980—999	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...		520	274	246	24	1	8	7	—	1	4	16	19	58	91	137	154	71	69	76	49	94	88	73



		AGE DISTRIBUTION (YEARS)											WARD DISTRIBUTION								
		TOTALS	Under 1 year	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65 plus	Central	Broadwell	Brandhall	Rounds Green	Langley	Warley	Bristnall	
P U L M O N A R Y	M A L E	No. on Register at 1-1-50 ...	173	—	8	5	9	27	19	31	35	25	10	4	17	12	22	13	34	51	24
		Primary Notifications ...	38			1		2	7	11	6	7	4		3	5	6	2	5	9	8
		Heard of otherwise (Death Returns)	—																		
		Restored to Register...	—																		
		Inward Transfers ...	3						1	1		1								1	2
	Deletions	7							1		1	4	1				2	1		4	
	Died ...	—																			
	Recovered ...	1																			
	Diagnosis not confirmed ...	3					1	1			1					1	1				
	Outward Transfers ...	3																			
		No. on Register at 31-12-50 ...	203	—	8	6	9	28	26	42	40	31	10	3	20	16	24	14	40	58	31
F E M A L E	M A L E	No. on Register at 1-1-50 ...	118	—	7	6	6	24	24	26	15	8	2	—	7	12	14	13	16	26	30
		Primary Notifications ...	18		2	2		1	3	6	4				5	3	2	1	3	3	1
		Heard of otherwise (Death Returns)	3								1	1		1					1		
		Restored to Register...	—																		
		Inward Transfers ...	5			1		2	1	1					1					2	2
	Deletions	8		1			1		1	2	2		1			3	3		1		
	Died ...	1				1								1							
	Recovered ...	—													1						
	Diagnosis not confirmed ...	3							1	2									1	1	
	Outward Transfers ...	3																			
		No. on Register at 31-12-50 ...	132	—	8	9	5	26	27	30	18	7	2	—	12	12	15	14	18	30	31
N O N P U L M O N A R Y	M A L E	No. on Register at 1-1-50 ...	43	1	10	9	6	3	4	5	4	1	—	—	5	3	6	5	9	7	8
		Primary Notifications ...	4		1	2				1							1	1		2	
		Heard of otherwise (Death Returns)	—																		
		Restored to Register...	—																		
		Inward Transfers ...	—																		
	Deletions	1			1											1					
	Died ...	1				1															
	Recovered ...	1				1														1	
	Diagnosis not confirmed ...	—																			
	Outward Transfers ...	1							1						1						
		No. on Register at 31-12-50 ...	44	1	11	10	5	3	3	6	4	1	—	—	4	3	7	5	11	6	8
F E M A L E	M A L E	No. on Register at 1-1-50 ...	30	—	5	5	4	1	6	3	2	2	2	—	3	3	7	1	7	5	4
		Primary Notifications ...	5		1	2				2					2	2	1				
		Heard of otherwise (Death Returns)	1		1																
		Restored to Register...	—																		
		Inward Transfers ...	—																		
	Deletions	1		1												1					
	Died ...	1																			
	Recovered ...	1				1															
	Diagnosis not confirmed ...	—																			
	Outward Transfers ...	1			1											1					
		No. on Register at 31-12-50 ...	33	—	6	6	3	1	6	5	2	2	2	—	5	4	7	1	7	5	4

AGE DISTRIBUTION—All ages are those obtaining at date of Primary Notification.
 DEATHS - All the deaths removed from Register have not actually occurred during 1950.

TABLE IV.—DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION at 31st December, 1950.

Year of Birth	YEAR OF IMMUNISATION																Totals in Year of Birth	Age at 31-12-50 Years	Totals in Age Groups	
	1936	1937	1938	1939	Before 1940	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	Before 1947	1947	1948	1949				1950
Column No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1950																	6	6	0—1	2,367
49																84	347	431	1—2	
48															71	550	48	669	2—3	
47														13	510	115	22	660	3—4	
46												5	—	389	112	61	34	601	4—5	
45											7	396	—	102	27	83	23	638	5—6	
44										11	513	177	10	21	25	43	46	846	6—7	
43									6	358	179	58	29	15	26	61	12	744	7—8	
42								18	334	159	53	44	65	36	19	14	4	746	8—9	
41							5	207	157	49	32	23	97	53	6	1	4	634	9—10	
1940						8	143	200	101	55	30	31	101	70	—	5	2	746	10—11	
39				2	3	44	122	146	94	61	31	14	120	57	3	—	—	697	11—12	
38			2	30	15	34	118	192	136	51	18	28	136	52	2	5	1	820	12—13	
37		1	8	20	66	16	68	190	168	34	25	17	100	40	—	—	—	753	13—14	
36	5	8	20	23	67	17	150	195	103	39	22	10	76	33	1	—	—	769	14—15	
TOTALS	5	9	30	75	151	119	606	1,148	1,099	817	910	803	734	881	802	1,022	549	9,760	—	9,760

NOTE.—Columns 5 and 13. These figures relate to children whose parents stated at surveys held in 1940 and 1947, that “the children had already been immunised.”

TABLE V.—VITAL STATISTICS SINCE 1891.

YEARS	POPULATION (R. G.'s Mid. Year Est.)	RATES PER 1000 EST. POPULATION								Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 Live Births)		Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1000 Live and Still Births)
		LIVE BIRTH		STILL BIRTH		CRUDE DEATH		PHTHISIS DEATHS		Oldbury	E.&W.	
		Oldbury	E. & W.	Oldbury	E.&W.	Oldbury	E.&W.	No.	Rate			
1891—1895	21,331	40·82	30·5			21·33	18·7	89	·8344	201·8	151	
1896—1900	25,375	37·82	29·3			16·80	17·7	94	·7411	216·5	156	
1901—1905	25,798	36·28	28·2			17·45	16·0	77	·5969	175·0	138	
1906—1910	28,580	35·75	26·3			17·04	14·7	118	·8257	147·1	117	
1911—1915	33,856	30·12	23·6			15·47	14·3	115	·6793	137·6	110	
1916—1920	38,277	23·47	20·1			12·77	14·4	162	·8464	104·1	90	
1921	37,700	26·4	22·4			11·5	12·1	31	·8222	101·0	83	7·04
2	38,390	24·8	20·6			11·6	12·9	31	·8074	69·0	77	3·15
3	39,970	23·5	19·7			11·1	11·6	21	·5388	78·0	69	3·27
4	40,050	21·9	18·8			9·5	12·2	30	·7490	68·0	75	4·56
5	40,740	22·1	18·3			10·8	12·2	34	·8344	70·0	75	4·43
6	42,080	20·4	17·8			9·7	11·6	27	·6415	55·8	70	1·16
7	43,120	19·4	16·7			11·2	12·3	22	·5102	88·4	69	2·38
8	33,760	21·7	16·7			11·1	11·7	29	·8589	67·8	65	3·64
9	34,190	21·7	16·3			12·6	13·4	19	·5557	99·7	74	4·04
1930	35,000	21·5	16·3	0·83	0·69	10·8	11·4	36	1·0285	43·9	60	7·80
1	36,370	20·8	15·8	0·52	0·67	11·1	12·3	21	·5773	68·6	66	3·86
2	37,660	19·4	15·3	0·52	0·66	10·1	12·0	21	·5576	91·5	65	7·87
3	39,560	17·4	14·4	0·63	0·62	10·5	12·3	23	·5813	89·7	64	2·83
4	40,720	19·2	14·8	0·93	0·62	10·4	11·8	29	·7121	64·0	59	2·43
5	41,900	18·9	14·7	0·83	0·62	9·7	11·7	31	·7398	65·6	57	2·40
6	42,990	19·6	14·8	0·81	0·61	10·28	12·1	35	·8141	55·6	59	0·00
7	44,450	18·94	14·9	1·12	0·60	11·09	12·4	25	·5624	65·32	58	2·24
8	45,450	19·88	15·1	0·79	0·60	10·42	11·6	30	·6600	56·41	53	3·19
9	47,000	18·51	15·0	0·74	0·59	9·96	12·1	28	·5956	64·59	50	3·31
1940	48,700	18·74	14·6	0·76	0·55	11·17	14·3	39	·8008	49·34	55	4·20
1	49,390	16·94	14·2	0·58	0·51	9·98	12·9	30	·6074	70·47	59	1·15
2	49,530	19·97	15·8	0·76	0·54	9·63	11·6	34	·6864	46·51	49	2·92
3	50,100	21·89	16·5	0·79	0·51	9·84	12·1	42	·8382	41·02	49	1·84
4	50,220	21·42	17·6	0·65	0·50	8·86	11·6	26	·5176	37·18	46	2·70
5	50,040	20·22	16·1	0·47	0·46	9·03	11·4	26	·5194	33·59	46	1·93
6	51,890	19·32	19·1	0·52	0·53	9·55	11·5	38	·7322	35·89	43	0·00
7	52,510	19·97	20·5	0·55	0·50	9·54	12·0	27	·5141	36·22	41	2·78
8	53,350	17·22	17·9	0·24	0·42	8·90	10·8	15	·2811	41·34	34	2·14
9	53,380	16·46	16·7	0·31	0·39	10·02	11·7	28	·5245	34·12	32	2·23
1950	53,820	15·32	15·8	0·31	0·37	9·66	11·6	13	·2415	30·30	29·8	1·18

Borough of Oldbury.

Annual Report

OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

AND

Cleansing Superintendent

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1950.

E. HARROLD, F.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the Borough of Oldbury.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Report for the year 1950.

Housing and Overcrowding.

The housing need in the Borough remains acute, with approximately 2,280 overcrowded families and sub-tenants awaiting re-housing.

The number of new houses erected during the year was 88 (see Table X), a very unsatisfactory rate of progress. Numerous difficulties have been met with by the Housing Committee, principally the shortage of labour and certain building materials, coupled with the acquisition and development of suitable sites which have become almost non-existent. The provision of new houses is inadequate to the needs of ordinary applicants and it therefore continues to be impossible to tackle the pressing problem of slum clearance with the exception of a few individual unfit houses which are beyond redemption.

Building Licences.

The number of Building Licences issued for repairs to houses was four, against two in 1949.

Housing Act, 1936.

Repairs

Because of the necessity for diverting manpower and materials to the building of new houses we have not considered it advisable to recommence operations under Section 9 of the Act, although, as will be seen in Table X, a good deal of housing repair work was accomplished under the Public Health Act.

Demolition and Closing Orders—Sections 11 and 12

These have in the main been restricted to dangerous and dilapidated houses, as follows:—

Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	16
Number of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	1
Number of unfit houses demolished	...	...	...	...	1

Clearance Areas

We had hoped to deal with the unhealthy areas which were submitted to the Ministry of Health in 1939 but which had to be curtailed on the outbreak of War. Again the acute shortage of new houses has prevented this and therefore the problem remains one of paramount importance.

Overcrowding

The number of complaints received of alleged overcrowding still remains high. 32 of the worst cases were reported during the year, involving a total of 318 people out of which 17 families, totalling 78 people, have so far been re-housed.

The problem of housing within the Borough still remains acute.

Housing Act, 1949

The number of applications for improvement grants received was three, none of which were recommended as no additional units of accommodation were provided for.

Sanitary Accommodation.

This is recorded in Table III.

Water Supply.

The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company supplies the whole of the Borough which is divided into three zones for the purpose, each zone being supplied with water derived from deep wells, boreholes and surface catchment areas in differing proportions. All the water supplied is chlorinated but not softened.

Eighteen samples of water were submitted to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination—and 18 for chemical analysis, all with satisfactory results.

There are no drinking water wells in use in the Borough.

Rivers and Streams.

There is still an appreciable amount of contamination of brook courses from manufacturing establishments and also from sewers during abnormal rainfall. Officers of the Department work in liaison with the Inspector of the Tame and Rea Rivers Pollution Authority in this matter.

There is no river passing through the Borough.

Drainage and Sewerage.

One Sewage Disposal Works serves the whole of the Borough.

The average dry weather flow is 2,250,000 gallons per day. Normally, half of the dry weather flow is subjected to a complete treatment, that is, (1) detritus tanks, (2) screened, (3) lime treatment, (4) aerated—compressed air, (5) sedimentation tanks, (6) bacterial radial filters, (7) humus tanks, (8) effluent to River Tame. Sludge is passed to lagoons and drying beds and detritus and

screenings disposed of on Refuse Disposal Tip. Half to six times dry weather flow is passed to storm settling tanks and then to the river, and over six times dry weather flow is passed direct to the river.

The number of houses without a proper drainage system connected to a public sewer is thirteen.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply

There is now only one dairy farm, registered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, in the district.

All registered dairies were brought up to the standard required by the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, during the year under review. There were only six registered dairies left in the Borough at the end of the year, which represents a reduction of fifty per cent of the number registered at the end of the year 1949. Allied with this drop in the number of registered dairies the percentage of raw, loose milk has further dropped and there is now very little loose milk sold in the Borough.

The two licensed pasteurising plants in the Borough were kept under close supervision during the year and new plant is to be installed in the year 1951 at one dairy to replace the old, worn-out and obsolete type of plant formerly operated, which was giving rise to a certain amount of trouble. A total of 72 samples were taken from these two plants during the year. All samples passed the Methylene Blue Test when so examined (i.e. 54 tests), and 69 samples passed the Phosphatase Test with three failures in the latter test. The three failures were all from the plant to be renewed.

With regard to school milk supplies, tuberculin tested milk (pasteurised) in bulk is used in the School Meals Service and pasteurised milk (in one third pint bottles) is supplied under the School Milk Scheme. Details of the sampling of these supplies during the year is given below:—

		<i>No of Methylene Blue</i>		<i>Phosphatase</i>	
		<i>samples</i>	<i>Test</i>	<i>Test</i>	
		<i>taken</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>	<i>Passed</i>
					<i>Failed</i>
Bulk Tuberculin Tested					
Milk (Pasteurised)	...	8	7	—	8
Pasteurised Milk					
(bottled)	...	11	9	—	11

153 samples of milk in all were taken for bacteriological examination and of these 149 were satisfactory and 4 unsatisfactory. All these four samples were of heat-treated milk (three pasteurised and one sterilised), the samples of pasteurised milk being from a local dairy referred to above and the sterilised milk sample being from a dairy outside the Borough.

Two samples of raw milk were taken for biological test, one being certified positive and one negative. The appropriate action was taken in the positive case, all the milk from the herd being pasteurised until the supply was again safe.

18 washed milk bottles were taken for cleanliness tests, all of which were satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949.

The number of licences issued during the year under these Regulations was as follows:—

Bottling Establishments (Tuberculin Tested Milk) ...	2
Pasteurisers	2
Retailers (Pasteurised 47; Sterilised 122; Accredited 4; Tuberculin Tested 34)	207

Meat and Other Foods

All animals reported as having been slaughtered in the area have been inspected by a qualified Meat and Foods Inspector. For this purpose the carcasses and organs of 66 pigs were inspected and Table IX gives a summary of the surrendered carcasses and/or organs.

During the year considerable improvements have been made to numerous food premises and much time continues to be given to the inspection of food and food premises. The Council made Food Handling Byelaws early in the year and the provisions of these Byelaws are now being enforced in the Borough.

Table XIII gives a detailed list of diseased and unsound foods condemned and destroyed during the year, or salvaged under the Salvaged Goods Order, 1948.

Ice Cream

The number of manufacturers registered at the end of the year was four (2 complete cold mix and 2 pasteurised mix) and retailers numbered 54.

54 samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination and 51 for chemical analysis. All samples were satisfactory as to chemical composition. 50 samples were of Ministry of Health Provisional Grades 1 and 2 (Methylene Blue Test) and four were of Provisional Grades 3 and 4, a most satisfactory state of affairs.

Two local manufacturers now retail ice cream on the streets from approved vehicles. There are still some itinerant vendors of ice cream whose vehicles leave much to be desired and who are being dealt with under the provisions of the Oldbury Corporation Act, 1949 as hawkers of food.

Food Hawking

During the year two premises were registered under Section 60(1)(b) of the Oldbury Corporation Act, 1949 for the storage of food intended for sale from a vehicle, etc., and two persons were registered under Section 69(1)(a) of the same Act as food hawkers in the Borough.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

The number of samples taken for analysis (excluding ice cream) was 194 of which 190 were certified genuine. Of the four adulterated samples one sample was a formal sample of Medicinal Liquid Paraffin and detailed in my Annual Report for 1949 and two samples were of Channel Islands Milk (one informal and one formal) which were 7.5% and 17.5% deficient in fat respectively. The results were referred to the Area Milk Officer, Ministry of Food, for his attention as representing the appropriate authority under the Milk (Control and Maximum Prices) (Great Britain) Order, 1947. The remaining sample was of sausage containing preservative and there was no notice exhibited in the shop. The necessary notice was provided by the butcher after a cautioning letter.

Factories.

The number of factories inspected was 12, and the number of visits 23.

Contraventions of the Factories Act, 1937 with regard to sanitary accommodation were found at the twelve factories visited. Four of the contraventions have been remedied.

Public Cleansing.**Collection and Disposal of House and Trade Refuse.**

From Table I it will be seen that the net cost of this service (Collection and Disposal) was £16,376, a considerable increase over the previous year. £2,000 of this amount was spent on safety measures adopted at the Portway Road Tip when a dangerous slip had occurred which was menacing the road and footpath for a considerable distance. Extra wages and transport maintenance also accounted for considerable additional expenditure over the previous year.

The average period between collections of dustbins was 10 days during the greater part of the year, increasing to 14 days during the Winter months. In view of the many difficulties encountered, including labour shortage, sickness amongst employees and shorter working hours in particular, this can be regarded as a satisfactory achievement. Vacancies still exist in the Department, and in an area such as this, where factory work offers many advantages, it would appear that this problem is likely to remain with us for some time.

A Bonus Scheme has been agreed upon between the Council and the employees and it is expected that a weekly collection will be achieved as a result.

The number of vehicles engaged on this work is eight, six of which are in regular use.

Salvage of Waste Materials.

A separate collection of waste paper was continued from factories, shops and numerous other premises, also the cleanest of paper deposited at the disposal tip was salvaged.

Two vehicles were engaged whole time and a third part-time on this work throughout the year.

The weight of paper collected was 271 tons (see Table XI) and it proved an economic service in spite of numerous difficulties encountered, in particular the shortage of men, which continued to operate against this service being undertaken jointly with the house refuse collection.

Waste food collection from communal bins placed in numerous parts of the District and from many other premises amounted to 714 tons, which was sterilised in our licensed plant and sold to pig and poultry keepers.

Other items of salvage included textiles, ferrous scrap, non-ferrous metals, bones and glass (64 tons in all).

Statistics for 1950 and an Annual Summary for eleven years from 1940 are appended. These figures show that the total weight of salvage materials collected and sold amounted to 14,033 tons with an income of £63,828, truly remarkable figures.

Smoke Abatement and Atmospheric Pollution.

The number of official smoke observations recorded was 16. Of this number there were four contraventions of the local Smoke Abatement Byelaws.

Other nuisances which received attention during the year were:—

- (1) Dust from a Rolling Mills.
- (2) Powder from an enamel-spraying plant.
- (3) Soot deposits from a factory stack.
- (4) Offensive odours, known locally as "the tom cat smell," from a local chemical works.

An improvement has been effected regarding this latter nuisance during the year under review but periodic outbursts are still evident. Close liaison is maintained regarding this nuisance, with H.M. Inspector of Alkali etc. Works and it is hoped that in time the nuisance will be alleviated.

Verminous Houses.

All cases of vermin infestation discovered during the year were dealt with at once, involving the disinfestation of 45 houses.

Smoke generators and liquid insecticide were used for this purpose and fumigation by HCN gas was arranged and carried out for the particularly heavily infested furniture of one family moving from a verminous house into a Municipal house.

A pyrethrum powder, with a D.D.T. content, is used with very good effect against cockroaches and beetles.

Tenants of all houses where disinfestation is carried out are given the necessary advice on measures necessary to prevent re-infestation and bad cases are followed up.

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY
 RECORD OF MONTHLY COLLECTIONS AND SALES OF SALVAGE MATERIALS FOR THE YEAR 1950 AND
 SUMMARY FOR ELEVEN YEARS FROM 1st JANUARY, 1940 to 31st DECEMBER, 1950

	Waste Paper	Heavy and Light Iron	Destructor Scrap	Non-Ferrous Metals	Textiles	Bones	Glass Cullet	Rubber	Kitchen Waste	T. c.	s. d.
1950	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.
January	34 17	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	64 16	2	8
February	18 13	11 11	5 11	— 17	— 11	12	—	—	57 14	2	2
March	18 8	—	—	— 10	—	11	1 6	—	73 16	7	7
April	25 11	6 6	—	—	—	11	—	—	55 7	63	19
May	24 14	—	—	—	1 9	8	—	—	63 19	58	16
June	24 7	2 8	6 6	—	—	9	—	—	58 16	46	6
July	20 13	2 1	—	—	—	7	1 1	—	55 10	48	4
August	15 12	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	48 4	56	14
September	18 7	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	56 14	62	19
October	23 14	—	—	—	2 5	8	—	—	62 19	58	19
November	22 8	2 18	4 9	— 19	—	8	1 3	—	58 19	58	19
December	23 13	1 13	6 3	—	—	5	—	—	56 18	56	18
	270 17	26 17	22 9	2 6	4 5	5 6	3 10	—	713 12	713	12

SUMMARY.

	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	T. c.	£	s. d.
1940	308 1	236 19	63 10	7 5	13 11	11 14	40 9	—	2	8	300	10 0
1941	434 4	99 12	84 12	4 5	7 11	11 13	71 6	—	348	2	377	0 0
1942	556 1	267 2	99 3	6 0	20 9	15 13	90 6	49 14	652	2	698	1 8
1943	396 1	320 18	201 17	4 8	28 14	23 8	104 9	10 6	746	0	723	2 0
1944	399 1	105 8	197 17	2 16	26 19	21 18	76 19	5 15	664	8	619	5 0
1945	355 8	62 5	129 6	3 2	24 11	13 16	54 6	—	545	18	510	0 0
1946	338 13	234 1	92 0	3 19	19 1	9 14	27 18	—	555	4	579	3 0
1947	330 16	40 6	65 17	3 12	8 10	5 10	8 3	—	629	5	565	8 0
1948	454 16	64 16	23 9	2 14	18 16	6 18	8 14	—	678	4	718	2 0
1949	418 19	88 5	27 12	2 2	12 11	5 2	10 10	—	763	4	712	7 0
1950	270 17	26 17	22 9	2 6	4 5	5 6	3 10	—	713	12	578	2 0
	4260 17	1546 9	1007 12	42 9	184 18	130 12	496 10	65 15	6298 9	638	28 0 0	

Total Weight Collected — 14,033 tons. Total Income from Sales — £63,828.

Rodent Control.

The year has witnessed the repeal of the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919 and its replacement on the Statute Book by the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 which has now firmly established Rodent Control as a permanent duty of local authorities, has given local authorities important new powers and responsibilities and is a vastly improved weapon in our hands in the fight against the rat and the mouse. It has, however, also legalised the supervision of local authorities' work by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries by requiring the submission of an Annual Report to the Minister.

The number of rodent infestations dealt with during the year at business premises, private dwelling-houses and Corporation properties was 75, 34 and 25 respectively.

The recommended methods of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were employed during the year with continuing satisfactory results.

Infestations of mice in dwelling houses, however, have continued to prove most difficult to deal with, owing to the danger of laying poison baits and traps exposed to disturbance by young children. The use of adhesive substances has proved of some value but these materials cannot compete in efficiency with extensive and thorough baiting and poisoning.

It is again gratifying to report that the relatively light, and almost negligible infestation of sewers in this, a highly industrial Borough, has been maintained by the execution of two maintenance treatments during the year.

Public Swimming Baths.

The water of the Public Swimming Baths in the Borough was sampled during the Summer months, four samples being taken, two of which were entirely satisfactory, and two satisfactory bacteriologically but unsatisfactory chemically.

Oldbury Corporation Act, 1949.

Section 63—Hairdressers

The hairdressers and barbers, and their premises within the Borough, have been registered.

Section 73—Noise Nuisances

Four complaints were investigated.

Staff.

The following changes occurred during the year, all on the Clerical side. Mr. J. D. Forsbrook left the Local Government service for financial reasons and Mr. F. W. Hackett was called up for National Service. Two Junior Clerks (Messrs. D. Stuckey and J. Cutler) were appointed although the latter was an additional appointment to a new Office created at the Public Cleansing and Salvage Depot.

Conclusion.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and the Chief Officers of other Departments I would like to express my sincere thanks for their helpful co-operation and administrative support and in this respect I would like to place on record that the Chairman of the Health Committee (Alderman S. T. Melsom, J.P., C.A.) completed twenty-five continuous years of service in this capacity and I am privileged to testify to such an outstanding example of voluntary work, having been at his side throughout this long period.

To the Staff of the Department must go the credit for the material contained in this Report. They have loyally and ably carried out their work during a difficult year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

E. HARROLD,

Chief Sanitary Inspector
and

Cleansing Superintendent.

Sanitary Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Oldbury.

September, 1951.

TABLE I.
CLEANSING SERVICE.

House and Trade Refuse.

Table showing costs for the year ended 31st March, 1951

Item	Particulars	I. Collection, with Depreciation or Loan Charges included or excluded.		II. Disposal, with Depreciation or Loan Charges included or excluded.		III. Total, with Depreciation or Loan Charges included or excluded.	
		Included	Excluded	Included	Excluded	Included	Excluded
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
A	REVENUE ACCOUNT Gross Expenditure ...	£14,855	£13,747	£3,322	£3,175	£18,177	£16,922
B	Gross Income ...	371	371	175	175	546	546
C	Net Cost ...	£14,484	£13,376	£3,147	£3,000	£17,631	£16,376
D	UNIT COSTS Gross Expenditure per ton...	£ s. d. 1 3 0	£ s. d. 1 1 3	s. d. 5 0	s. d. 4 9	£ s. d. 1 8 0	£ s. d. 1 6 0
E	Gross Income per ton ...	7	7	3	3	10	10
F	Net cost per ton	1 2 5	1 0 8	4 9	4 6	1 7 2	1 5 2
G	Net cost per 1,000 population ...	£ s. d. 269 0 0	£ s. d. 248 0 0	£ s. d. 58 0 0	£ s. d. 55 0 0	£ s. d. 327 0 0	£ s. d. 304 0 0
H	Net cost per 1,000 houses from which house refuse is collected ...	£ s. d. 1,001 0 0	£ s. d. 925 0 0	£ s. d. 217 0 0	£ s. d. 205 0 0	£ s. d. 1,219 0 0	£ s. d. 1,130 0 0

Net cost per resident per annum (Collection and Disposal) ... 6s 1d
 " " " " " week " " " " " 1'4d

NOTE.—The disposal figures include an amount of £2,000 spent on supporting the road adjoining the tip where a dangerous slip occurred.

TABLE II.
WATER SUPPLY.

	Number of Dwelling	
	Houses	Population
Water supplied direct to houses ...	14,324	52,901 (approx.)
Water supplied from mains to stand pipes or taps in yards serving two or more houses	133 (approx.)	479 (approx.)
Water supplied from communal stand pipes serving particular parts of the district	Nil	Nil
Water supplied from private supplies (e.g. wells, springs, etc.)	Nil	Nil

TABLE III.
SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Number of dwellings connected to a public sewer	... 14,444
Estimated population served ... ..	... 53,332
Number of houses with pail closets ... ..	... 11
Number of houses with cess pits, etc. ... ..	... 2
Number of houses with private installation ... ..	... Nil

TABLE IV.

**Summary of defects remedied, improvements effected and
nuisances abated under the Housing, Public Health
and O.U.D.C. Acts during the year 1950.**

Houses cleansed and/or repaired under Public Health Act, 1936	127
Houses cleansed and/or repaired under Housing Act, 1936	4
Houses provided with improved ventilation and existing windows made to open	7
Existing pantries provided with external ventilation	2
Staircases repaired or new provided	16
Handrails provided to staircases	24
New floors provided	3
Firegrates repaired or new provided	45
New sinks provided	13
New waste pipes provided and others repaired	18
Water supply—additional taps provided	7
—burst water pipes repaired or new provided	13
Foul cellars cleansed and defects in drains remedied	2

Drains opened and cleansed from obstruction	...	...	...	...	96
Drains provided with efficient traps	...	...	...	...	1
New drains and/or inspection chambers provided (excluding new houses)	...	...	...	...	10
Inspection chambers repaired or new covers provided	...	...	...	...	1
Drains relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	18
Soil and ventilating pipes improved or new provided	...	...	...	...	6
Water closets reconstructed	...	...	...	...	2
Water closets repaired and/or limewashed	...	...	...	...	55
Water closets provided with new pedestals	...	...	...	...	16
Foul water closet basins and traps cleansed	...	...	...	...	6
Defective water closet cisterns repaired or replaced	...	...	...	...	18
Defective spouting repaired or disconnected or new spouting provided	...	...	...	...	92
Leaky roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	113
House roofs stripped and re-roofed	...	...	...	...	1
Dangerous chimneys rebuilt	...	...	...	...	26
Courts, back-yards or approaches paved or repaired	...	...	...	...	17
Wash-houses repaired and/or limewashed	...	...	...	...	35
Wash-houses reconstructed	...	...	...	...	2
Walls rendered externally	...	...	...	...	1
Gable walls weatherproofed	...	...	...	...	5
Washing boilers provided	...	...	...	...	5
New windows provided	...	...	...	...	9
New doors provided	...	...	...	...	4
Domestic hot water systems repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Verandahs reconstructed	...	...	...	...	1
Cafés and restaurants cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Food shops and/or premises provided with constant hot water supply	...	...	...	...	12
Food shops cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Food shops provided with improved ventilation	...	...	...	...	5
Dirty and verminous houses cleansed and purified	...	...	...	...	45
Houses repaired and redecorated after infectious disease	...	...	...	...	1
Houses painted inside and/or outside	...	...	...	...	4
Houses provided with food storage	...	...	...	...	2
Houses provided with internal water supply	...	...	...	...	3
Houses supplied with baths	...	...	...	...	1
Houses provided with sanitary dustbins	...	...	...	...	1,014
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	114

TABLE V.

Summary of Inspections and Revisits during the year 1950.

	Inspections	Re-visits
Infectious Disease Prevention	178	116
Houses and Premises	432	1,165
Overcrowding	125	9
Water Closets and Drains	169	256
Meat and other Foods Inspection	142	6
Food Premises (excluding Ice-Cream)	92	129
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	111	70
Keeping of Animals and/or Poultry	41	2
Factories	16	11
Dirty and/or Verminous Houses and Premises	55	11
Canal Boats	4	4
Offensive Accumulations	7	2
Tents, Vans and Sheds (including temporary buildings)	1	—
Refuse Removal and Disposal	62	—
Refuse Disposal Tips	395	—
Rats and Mice Nuisances	229	552
Rent Acts	1	1
Salvage	909	1
Food and Drugs Sampling	157	—
Dustbins	892	59
Building Licences	4	1
Water Supplies and Samples	25	—
Offensive Trades	4	—
Smoke Nuisances and Observations	29	3
Paving of Courts, Yards and Passages	8	14
Ice-Cream Premises—manufacture and/or sale	36	51
Foul Cellars	13	13
Suspected Cases of Food Poisoning	1	—
House Measurement under Housing Act, 1936	18	—
Derelict and/or Dangerous Buildings	2	—
Obstructed and Foul Water Courses	1	—
Shops (including inspections under Shops Act)	116	1
Dust Nuisances	9	2
Tipping of Rubbish	4	—
Schools (including School Meals Service)	2	1
Alkali Works—Nuisances	2	—
Market	3	—
Legal Proceedings	1	1
Noise Nuisances	4	6
Earth Closets	1	—
Food Transport and Sale Vehicles	8	1
Swimming Baths	1	—
Barbers' Shops	2	—
Miscellaneous	625	107
Number of Interviews	781	

TABLE VI.

**PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 AND
CANAL BOAT REGULATIONS.**

Statistical supplement to the Annual Report for the year 1950.

Number of canal boats on register	...	...	...	21
Number of canal boats registered during the year			...	2
Number of other canal boats inspected		...	...	2
Number of inspections made for the purpose	...		...	8
Total number for which the cabins were registered			...	14
Total number occupying the cabins	...	...	...	10

TABLE VII.

Summary of Notices served during the year 1950.

Public Health Act, 1936:

				Preliminary	Statutory
Nuisance Properties	...	...	...	260	154
Paving of Yards	...	...	...	12	6
Proposed work of Maintenance on Sewers				1	—
Defective Drains	...	...	...	8	6
Repair of Defective Water Closets			...	2	1
Insufficient Water Closet Accommodation				3	1
Provision of Dustbins	...	...	...	1	45
O.U.D.C. Act—Defective Drains	...	...	...	—	7
Housing Act, 1936—Abatement of Overcrowding				—	6
Factories Act, 1937	...	...	...	4	2
Shops Act, 1950	...	...	...	1	—
Food and Drugs Act, 1938	...	...	...	4	5
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949	...	...	...	—	1
			Totals	<u>296</u>	<u>234</u>

TABLE VIII.

Summary of diseased and unsound foods condemned and destroyed,
or disposed of under Salvaged Goods Order, 1948.

	Weight					
	tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	zs.	
<i>Meat:—</i>						
Pigs' Intestines (2 sets)				1	4	0
Pigs' Heads (2)				1	3	0
Pigs' Kidneys (2)						8
<i>Miscellaneous Foods:—</i>						
Bacon						15
Ham					19	3
Meat Extract (1 jar)						8
Meat Pies (24)					6	0
Broth (1 tin)					1	0
Meat (104 tins)	1	2		15		7
Sugar					8	0
Fruit (573 tins)	8	1		15		0
Coffee Extract (24 tins)... ..					6	0
Coffee and Chicory Essence (46 bottles)					11	3
Coffee (9 tins)					2	4
Bovril (1 jar)					1	0
Sausages (loose)				1	23	0
Pickles (36 jars)					21	14
Sauce (1 jar)						14
Tomato Sauce (3 bottles)					1	15
Milk (589 tins)	5	1		0		10
Vegetables (697 tins)	6	2		20		9
Dehydrated Vegetables (2 tins)					10	8
Flavouring Essence (16 bottles)						9
Soup (23 tins)					20	0
Christmas Puddings (2,461)	1	1		3	25	0
Spaghetti and Sausage (10 tins)					10	0
Jam and Marmalade (27 tins)				1	23	8
Honey (1 jar)					1	0
Salad Cream (4 bottles)					1	7
Walnuts (1 bottle)						10
Cereals (27 packets)					19	0
Golden Syrup (2 tins)					4	0
Mustard (2 tins)						3
Pudding (1 tin)						10
Eggs, shell (56)					7	0
Cheese	1	3		10		12
Dried Fruit	4	0		12		0
Fish or Fish Paste (191 tins)				3	7	10
Palm Kernel Oil				3	17	0
Pastry Mixture (4 packets)					3	0
Total	2	14	2	0	11	

TABLE IX.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Carcasses or Organs Inspected and Condemned.

Number of pigs killed	...	...	...	...	66
Number of pigs inspected	...	...	...	...	66
1. <i>All diseases except Tuberculosis:</i>					
Whole carcasses affected	...	...	...	...	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was affected	...	...	...	...	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1.5%
2. <i>Tuberculosis only:</i>					
Whole carcasses affected	...	...	...	...	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was affected	...	...	...	...	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	4.5%

TABLE X.

HOUSING.

Number of New Houses erected during the year.

(i) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	68
(ii) By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	4
(iii) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	16

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	444
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose (excluding re-visits)	...	...	...	...	400
(2) (a) Number of Dwelling-houses (included under (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	19
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	21
(3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	19
(4) Number of Dwelling-houses (excluding those in (3) above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	427

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	186
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3.—Action under Statutory powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	174
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

(2) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:					
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	166
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners					1

(b) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	16
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	1

(c) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	Nil

4.—Housing Act, 1936, Part IV—Overcrowding.

(a) Number of alleged cases of overcrowding investigated during the year	...	...	...	...	124
(b) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	32
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	17
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	318
(iii) Number of persons actually re-housed	...	...	...	...	78

TABLE XI.
GENERAL STATISTICS.

Infectious Diseases, etc.

Visits to houses on account of notifiable disease	294
Houses disinfected after notifiable disease by Local Authority	15

Sanitary Conveniences.

Number of cesspools in use at end of year	4
Number of earth or pail closets in use at end of year ...	11

House Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Number of houses from which refuse was removed ...	14,457
Number of dustbins cleansed periodically	14,457
Estimated number of tons of house refuse collected ...	12,596
Number of dustbins provided (including 1,239 under General Rate Fund Scheme)	1,559
Expenditure on purchases	£1,856
Income from Sales	£497

Salvage of Waste Materials.

Weight collected in tons:—

Waste Paper	271
Textiles	4
Ferrous Scrap	49
Best Metals	2
Glass	4
Bones	5
Waste Food	714
	1,049

Offensive Trades.

Number under observation	4
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Water Supply.

All houses supplied from South Staffordshire Waterworks.

Number of samples of water sent for Bacteriological Examination	18
Number of samples of water sent for Chemical Analysis...	18
Number of samples found to be satisfactory bacteriologically	18
Number of samples found to be satisfactory chemically	18
Number of samples found to be unsatisfactory bacteriologically	—
Number of samples found to be unsatisfactory chemically	—

Meat Inspection.

Cases of slaughtering on unlicensed premises reported ...	56
Number of pigs inspected	66

Milk.

Number of Registered Dairies (excluding producers) in the Area	6
Number of Registered Retailers retailing milk in the Area	91
Number of Licences issued under Milk (Special Designations) Regulations:—	

	Pasteurised	Sterilised	Accredited	Tuberculin Tested
Bottlers ...	—	—	—	2
Retailers ...	47	122	4	34
Pasteurisers ...	2	—	—	—

Food and Drugs Act and Milk and Dairies Regulations.

Number of samples taken for chemical analysis (excluding Ice-Cream)	194
Number of samples certified genuine	190
Number of samples adulterated	4
Number of samples of Ice-Cream taken for analysis ...	54
Number of samples certified as	
(a) Satisfactory	
(i) Bacteriologically ...	50
(ii) Chemically ...	51
(b) Unsatisfactory	
(i) Bacteriologically ...	4
(ii) Chemically ...	—
Number of samples of milk taken for bacteriological tests	135
Number of samples certified as (a) Satisfactory ...	131
(b) Unsatisfactory ...	4
Number of samples of milk taken for Biological Tests ...	2
Number of samples certified positive	1

Factories Act, 1937.

Number of inspections	12
Number of defects found	12
Number of defects remedied	4

Building Licences.

Number of Building Licences issued for repairs	4
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Prevention of Damage by Pests Act.

Number of premises treated during the year:—

(a) Business Premises (Shops, Factories, etc.) ...	75
(b) Private Dwelling-houses	34
(c) Corporation properties (excluding Corporation houses)	25
Number of dead rats found	171
Number of dead mice found	75
Number of hours spent by rodent operative on such treatments	685
Number of premises test-baited during the year (not included above):—	
(a) Business Premises (Shops, Factories, etc.) ...	13
(b) Private Dwelling-houses	28
(c) Corporation properties (excluding Corporation houses)	2
Number of hours spent by rodent operative on such test-baiting	60

Other Matters.

Verminous houses—cases dealt with	45
Nuisances arising from domestic animals and/or poultry	2
Visits in connection with erection of pig-sties	2

